PC10483US

Appln. No.: 10/522,044

Amendment Dated September 7, 2006 Reply to Office Action of June 15, 2006

<u>Amendments to the Claims:</u> This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

- 1-7. (Cancelled).
- 8. (Currently Amended) Sealing A sealing collar for a cylinder-and-piston unit, wherein the sealing collar is essentially received in a groove that is inserted into the cylinder or the piston, respectively, and the sealing collar comprises two sealing lips, the first sealing lip thereof being acted upon dynamically and making catch at the piston or the cylinder, respectively, while the second sealing lip thereof is acted upon statically and rests on a bottom of the groove, said first and second sealing lips each having a free end,

wherein the sealing collar includes a circumferential extension that extends in parallel to the sealing lips, is arranged radially between the first sealing lip and the second sealing lip and projects from the sealing lips in an axial direction <u>beyond the free ends of the first and second</u> sealing lips.

- (Currently Amended) Sealing The sealing collar as claimed in claim 8,
  wherein the width of the groove is larger than the inside width of the sealing collar.
- 10. (Currently Amended) Sealing The sealing collar as claimed in claim 8, wherein the second sealing lip is configured such that it can be passed over by pressure fluid flow and hence provides the effect of a valve.
- 11. (Currently Amended) Sealing The sealing collar as claimed in claim 8, wherein the strength of the extension as a difference between its inside and outside diameters has at least the same rate as the strength of each of the sealing lips.
- 12. (Currently Amended) Sealing The sealing collar as claimed in claim 8, wherein the end area at the free end of the extension is provided with radial apertures allowing pressure fluid to pass through in a radial direction.
- 13. (Currently Amended) Sealing The sealing collar as claimed in claim 12, wherein the apertures are open in an axial direction towards the free end of the extension.

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- 14. (Currently Amended) Sealing The sealing collar as claimed in claim 8, wherein the extension is integrally connected to the sealing collar and is made of the same material.
- 15. (New) A sealing collar for a cylinder-and-piston unit, the sealing collar being configured for insertion into a groove extending in the cylinder-and-piston unit and comprising an outside sealing lip and an inside sealing lip, the outside and inside sealing lips each having a free end, the sealing collar further including a circumferential extension that extends in parallel to the sealing lips, is arranged radially between the outside sealing lip and the inside sealing lip and projects axially beyond the free ends of the outside and inside sealing lips, the circumferential extension being configured to contact a sidewall in the groove and maintain the free ends of the outside and inside sealing lips out of contact with the sidewall.